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Message Text

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ACTION HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-07 AID-05 AGRE-00 EB-08
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PASS DHEW/OIH
NAVMEDRCHDEVCOM, BETHESDA
AID

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR GARBLED IN LAST THREE PARA

E.O. 11652:N/ATAGS: TBIO, OSCI, EG
SUBJECT:HEALTH: JOINT WORKING GROUP FOR MEDICAL COOPERATION; RIFT VALLEY FEVER (RVF)

1. PLEASE INFORM MR. BOB EVANS, DHEW/OIH;CAPT. J.D. BLOOM OF NAVMEDRCHDEVCOM BETHESDA, AND NE/TECH OF AID THAT DURING DEBRIEFING OF INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE TEAM DURING STUDY OF HEALTH SECTOR IN EGYPT, MINISTER OF HEALTH BADRAN DICTATED FOLLOWING LETTER TO SCIENCE ATTACHE, WHICH WAS RECEIVED BY SCIATT MARCH 31:

- DEAR DR. A.RICHMOND, I WAS ADVISED BY HE DR. I. BADRAN TO WRITE
- TO YOU REQUESTING THE VISIT OF A CONSULTANTTEAM ON RIFT VALLEY
- FEVER COMPRISING: 1. A VIROLOGIST. 2. AN EPIDEMOLOGIST.
- 3. A ZOOTIC DISEASE (ZOONOSIS SPECIALIST.).AS THE SITUATION IS
- URGENT AND SEASONALITY OF MOSQUITO PEAK BREEDING IS PENDING,
- HE DR. I. BADRAN HOPES THAT YOU MAY NEED TO CABLE SO THAT THE
- TEAM WOULD BE ABLE TO ARRIVE AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE DURING THE MONTH

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- OF APRIL. WE APPRECIATE YOUR COOPERATION. YOURS SINCERELY,
- DR. R.A. GOMAA, UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE, MINISTRY OF HEALTH
- CAIRO - EGYPT.

2. DURING SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION WITH SHUTT, USAID HEALTH/POPULATION OFFICER, DR. FRED ROBBINS OF IOM SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE WOULD BE DIRECTED BY MISSION TO DR. JULIUS RICHMOND, US

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CO-CHAIRMAN OF JOINT WORKING GROUP FOR MEDICAL COOPERATION. DR. RICHMOND WOULD LIKELY NAME TEAM, PERHAPS ONE OF WHOSEMEMBERS WOULD COME FROM NAMRU.

3. NAMRU AND CDC HAVE BEEN DEEPLY INTERESTED IN RVF SINCE 14 OCTOBER SOON AFTER ITS INTRODUCTION INTO EGYPT IN AUGUST, 1977. MOH BUREAUCRACY HAS BEEN UNDERGOING POWER PLAY AT INTERMEDIATE LEVELS WIT H
THE RESULT THATMOH HAS NOT BEEN RECEPTIVE TO REPEATED OFFERS OF WILLINGNESS ASSISTAND TO COOPERATE. RECOMMENDATIOMADE BY NAMRU AND CDC HAVE NOT BEEN ACTED UPDN. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE HAS BEEN MORE RECEPTIVE TO RECOMMENDATIONS.

4. THIS OFFICIAL REQUEST FROM BADRAN FOR US ASSISTANCE, ILL DEFINED AS IT IS, MAY BE BREAKTHROUGH, AND AN INDICATION THAT GOE IS TAKING MORE SERIOUSLY THE POTENTIAL THREATS TO HUMAN AND ANIMAL HEALTH PRE-SENTED BY A VERNAL UPSURGE OF RVF.

5. NO US MISSION PERSONNEL WERE INVOLVED IN DISCUSSION WITH BADRAN. BADRAN CURRENTLY OUTOF THE COUNTRY.

6. SUGGEST DHEW/GIH CONTACT DR. ROBBINS OF IOM TO REVIEW IOM DIS-CUSSIONS WITH MINISTER BADRAN. AFTER THIS REVIEW, US WOULD BE IN BETTER POSITION TO ASSESS ASSISTANCE REQUIREMENTS.

7. MISSION SUPPORTIVE OF GOE REQUEST. BELIEVE US RESPONSE SHOULD
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CONSIDER EXPERIENCE AND CONTINUOUS INVOLVEMENT BY NAMRU WITH RVF IN EGYPT. NAMRU PREPARED TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION WHEN/ IF TEAM IS COMPOSED. SUGGEST ALSO J.S. WALKER OF ANIMAL DISEASE CENTER, ARS/USDA, BE CONSULTED IN VIEW HIS RECENTVISIT AND VALUABLE REPORT ON AGRICULTURE ASPECTS.

8. WE ARE AWARE OF APRIL 24-25 RVF CONFERENCE BEING CONVENED BY DR. IMAM ZAGOUL, DIRECTOR SERUM AND VACCINE INSTITUTE,AT REQUEST OF MOH. UNDERSTAND JORDIE CASSALS AND ROBERT SHOPPE WILL ATTEND.

DECONTROL FOLLOWING 4/7/79. EILTS

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